WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Integrated forestry development project of Guajrat

*369. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government of Gujarat's proposal on 'Integrated Forestry Development Project' is lying with Ministry of Finance and Company Affairs for clearance since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the said proposal is likely to be cleared by the Ministry and sent to J.B.I.C?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This project has already been included in the list of projects for consideration of Government of Japan for ODA loan package for financial year 2003-2004.

Price Stabilisation Fund for crop growers

*370. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rs. 500 crore Price Stabilisation Fund to benefit 3,42,346 rubber, coffee, tea and tobacco growers has been started;

(b) if so, what is the total number of beneficiaries to be covered under this scheme;

(c) what is the amount so far provided to each of these categories of growers;

(d) to what extent, they have utilised this amount; and

(e) what check Government propose to have to ensure proper utilisation of the funds?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To begin with, the scheme will cover about 3.42 lakh most needy growers of these commodities from amongst those having operational holdings upto 4 hectares.

(c) and (d) Do not arise at this stage.

(e) A High Power Committee will monitor the proper working and utilisation of the Fund.

Closing of Central Water Commission

†*371. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the main tasks of the Central Water Commission;

(b) whether it is a fact that the task for development of water resources is a subject of the State list and as a result thereof most of the task with regard to water resources is executed by the State; and

(c) the reasons for not closing the same in the public interest while utility of commission has become less?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI): (a) Central Water Commission is an apex technical organization in the field of water resources development in the country and is the main technical arm of the Ministry of Water Resources. Central Water Commission (CWC) is involved with following tasks:

Resource assessment; macro level planning; project planning including hydrological studies, designs, environmental and rehabilitation & resettlement issues; project evaluation; extending

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.